

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed February 25, 2004, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration based on the above claim amendments and the following remarks. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims as presented herein are in condition for allowance.

Claims 1-19 were pending. Applicants have amended claims 1, 7, and 11, and canceled claim 6. Accordingly, claims 1-5 and 7-19 will be pending herein upon entry of this Amendment, of which claims 1, 7, and 11 are independent claims. Support for the amendment to each of the claims can be found, for example, at page 5, paragraph [0021] of the present application. For the reasons stated below, Applicant respectfully submits that all claims pending in this application are in condition for allowance.

In the Office Action mailed February 25, 2004, claims 1-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,877,565 to Hollenbach et al. ("Hollenbach"). To the extent this rejection might still be applied to claims presently pending in this application, it is respectfully traversed.

Amended claim 1 recites, among other things, that the second end (of the filter cartridge) includes at least one first connector for receiving a DSL line and at least one second connector for receiving a telephone line, wherein the second end is configured to accept the DSL line and the telephone line simultaneously. This feature is also now recited in amended claims 7 and 11.

Hollenbach fails to teach or suggest the features of amended claims 1, 7, and 11 as mentioned above. Hollenbach describes an interlocking connector for a communication card including a first connection portion for connection to signals in the communication card relating

to a first device such as a cellular telephone. A second connection portion in the interlocking connector provides for connection to signals in the communication card relating to a second device such as the PSTN. The first and second connection portions, however, can not connect with the cellular telephone and the PSTN at the same time. As can be seen in Figures 2-4 and their corresponding descriptions, when connected to a cellular telephone, interlocking connector P1 prevents extension of ZJACK S2, thus preventing inadvertent connection of communication card modem 100 to the PSTN. Clearly, interlocking connector P1 is not configured to accept the DSL line (cellular telephone line) and the telephone line (PSTN line) simultaneously, as recited in amended claims 1, 7, and 11.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 7, and 11 are patentable and are not anticipated by Hollenbach under 35 U.S.C. 102(b). Furthermore, due to their dependencies from patentable independent claims, dependent claims 2-5, 8-10, and 12-19 are also considered patentable. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of these claims.

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In view of the foregoing all of the claims in this case are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions or determine that any further action is desirable to place this application in even better condition for issue, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone applicants' undersigned representative at the number listed below.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Date: May 25, 2004

By:


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